3: Czaplicka E-4 (no date) 1918 RL4 Turkic Peoples RL4

and other sections of the modern population such as the Ostyak or the Samoyed. 172

Finally, it is curious that among the many primitive races of Northern and Central Asia only two tribes have a reputation as iron-workers, the Yakut and the Kuznietsk 'Tatars'—from *kuzniets* (Russian), 'smith'. At the time of the Russian conquest the latter were paying tribute to China with iron implements of their own manufacture. It seems impossible to dissociate these people, whose original home was in the region of the Iron Age remains, from the ancient iron-workers. Of course, it is more difficult to trace their ancestry further back, though there is no evidence to prove that the Bronze Age people were of a different race from the people of the Iron Age. 326 ●

The presence of rich mineral deposits in the country of the old Turks gave rise to an extensive mining industry, the high value of which, added to the richness of the animal and vegetable world, made the population of the *yish* self-satisfied, and disinclined to leave their lands. The Orkhon inscriptions contain many allusions to 'the benevolent earth and waters of the Turks', and unfriendly comments on the people who migrate from the forests and mountains to the open plain, take up Chinese trade, and develop the war instinct. I will allow myself to quote one of the most instructive passages of the Orkhon inscriptions. The author addresses his tribesmen: 'Whence came your lust for warfare? Ye went away, ye people of Utukan Yish, some to the west and some to the east, but all that ye found there, in the place to which ye came, amounts to this, that your blood was shed like water, and your bones heaped up in mountains; your strong sons are 172